

THE MESSAGE.

(Continued from First Page.)

by the Senate in February last, was duly proclaimed last June.

The Samoan Protectorate.

Led by a desire to compose differences and contribute to the restoration of order in Samoa, for some years previous had been the scene of conflicting foreign pretensions, the United States, Germany, and Great Britain, each claiming a protectorate over the island, entered four years ago into the treaty of Berlin, thereby becoming jointly bound with England and Germany to establish and maintain Malietoa Laupepe as King of Samoa. The treaty provided for a foreign council of justice; a municipal council of the district of Apia, with a foreign president thereof, authorized to advise the king; a tribunal for the settlement of native and foreign land titles, and a revenue system for the kingdom. It entailed upon the three powers that part of the cost of the new government not met by the Samoans, and the life of this triple protectorate the native dissensions it was designed to quell revived. Rivals defied the authority of the new king, refusing to pay taxes and demanding the election of a ruler by native suffrage. Matafao, an aspirant to the throne, and a large number of his adherents, were expelled from the island of Apia. Quite lately, at the request of the other powers, and in fulfillment of its treaty obligation, this government agreed to unite in a joint military movement of such dimensions as would probably secure the surrender of the insurgents without bloodshed.

The war ship Philadelphia was accordingly put under orders for Samoa, but before she arrived the threatened conflict was precipitated by King Malietoa's attack upon the insurgent camp. Matafao was defeated and a number of German naval vessels present subsequently secured the surrender of Matafao and his adherents. The defeated chief and ten of his principal supporters were deported to a German island of the Marshall group, where they are held as prisoners under the joint responsibility and control of the three powers.

Claims Against Spain.

More than fifteen years ago this government preferred a claim against Spain, on behalf of one of its citizens, for property seized and confiscated in Cuba. In 1886 the claim was adjusted, Spain agreeing to pay, unconditionally, as a fair indemnity, \$1,000,000. A respectful but earnest note was recently addressed to the Spanish government insisting upon prompt fulfillment of this long-neglected obligation.

Other claims against the United States against Spain, in behalf of American citizens for property confiscated in Cuba, have been pending for many years. At the time Spain's title to the Caroline Islands was confirmed by arbitration, that Government agreed that the rights which had been acquired by the American missionaries should be recognized and respected. It is sincerely hoped that this pledge will be observed by allowing our missionaries, who were removed from Ponape to a place of safety by a United States war ship during the late troubles between the Spanish and American colonies, to return to their field of usefulness.

The reproduced caravel, Santa Maria, built by Spain and sent to the Columbian Exposition, has been presented to the United States in token of amity and in commemoration of the event it was designed to celebrate. I recommend that, in accepting this gift, Congress should also accept the caravel as a token of the friendship which prompted it.

Important matters have demanded attention in our relations with the Ottoman Porte. The firing and partial destruction, by an unrestrained mob, of one of the school buildings of the American College, established in the city of Constantinople, and the subsequent refusal of the Ottoman Government to make any compensation, and the apparent indifference of the Turkish Government to the outrage, notwithstanding the complicity of some of its officials, called for earnest remonstrance, which was followed by promises of reparation and punishment of the offenders.

Other matters of importance have already been announced, and it is to be expected that the Turkish Government will be induced to build again, registration of the school property in the name of the American owners secured, and efficient protection guaranteed.

Information received of mistreatment suffered by an inoffensive American woman engaged in missionary work in Turkish Kurdistan was followed by such representations to the Porte as resulted in the issuance of orders for the punishment of her assailants, the removal of a delinquent official, and the protection of our citizens engaged in mission and other lawful work in that quarter.

Turkey complains that her Armenian subjects obtain citizenship in this country, not to identify themselves in good faith with our people, but with the intention of returning to the land of their fathers and engaging in sedition. This complaint is not wholly without foundation. A Journal published in this country in the Armenian language openly counsels its readers to arm, organize, and participate in movements for the subversion of Turkish authority in the Asiatic provinces. The Ottoman Government has announced its intention to expel from its dominions Armenians who have obtained naturalization in the United States since 1880.

The right to exclude any or all classes of aliens is an attribute of sovereignty. It is a right asserted and, to a limited extent, enforced by the United States, with the sanction of our highest court. There being no naturalization treaty between the United States and Turkey, our minister at Constantinople has been instructed that, while recognizing the right of that government to enforce its declared policy against naturalized Armenians, he is expected to protect them from unnecessary harshness of treatment.

In view of the impaired financial resources of Venezuela, consequent upon the recent revolution there, a modified arrangement for the satisfaction of the awards of the late reparations Claims Commission, in progressive installments, has been assented to, and payments are being regularly made thereunder.

The boundary dispute between Venezuela and British Guiana is yet unadjusted. A restoration of diplomatic intercourse between that republic and Great Britain and reference of the question to impartial arbitration would be a most gratifying consummation.

The ratification by Venezuela of the convention for the arbitration of the long-deferred claim of the Venezuelan Transportation Company is awaited.

Waiting for News From Hawaii.

It is hardly necessary for me to state that the question arising from our relations with Hawaii have caused serious embarrassment. Just prior to the installation of the present administration the existing government of Hawaii had been suddenly overthrown, and a treaty of annexation had been negotiated between the provisional government of the islands and the United States, and submitted to the Senate for ratification. This treaty I withdrew for examination, and dispatched Hon. James H. Blount of Georgia to Honolulu as a special commissioner to make an impartial investigation of the circumstances attending the change of government, and of the conditions bearing upon the subject of the treaty. As a thorough and exhaustive examination Mr. Blount submitted to me his report, showing beyond all question that the constitutional government of Hawaii had been subverted with the active aid of our representative to that government and through the intimidation by the presence of an armed naval force of the United States which was landed for that purpose at the instance of our minister. Upon the facts developed it

seemed to me the only honorable course for our government to pursue was to undo the work that had been done by those responsible to us and to restore as far as practicable the status existing at the time of our forcible intervention. With a view of accomplishing this result within the constitutional limits of executive power, and recognizing all our obligations and responsibilities growing out of any changed conditions brought about by our forcible interference, our present minister at Honolulu has received appropriate instructions to that end. Thus far no information of the accomplishment of any definite results has been received from him.

Additional advice are soon expected. When received they will be promptly sent to the Congress, together with such information at hand, accompanied by a special executive message fully detailing all the facts necessary to a complete understanding of the case, and presenting a history of all the material events leading up to the present situation.

The Arbitration Movement.
By a concurrent resolution, passed by the Senate February 14, 1890, and by the House of Representatives on the 3d of April following, the President was requested "to invite, from time to time, as fit occasions may arise, negotiations with any Government which the United States has or may have diplomatic relations with, in which any differences or disputes arising between the two Governments which can not be adjusted by diplomatic agency may be referred to arbitration and be peaceably adjusted by such means." April 18, 1890, the International American Conference of the United States was opened at Washington. The United States expressed the wish that all controversies between the peoples of America and the nations of Europe might be settled by arbitration and recommended that the government of each nation represented in that conference should communicate this wish to all friendly powers.

A favorable response has been received from the United States in the shape of a resolution adopted by Parliament July 16 last, cordially sympathizing with the purpose in view, and expressing the hope that Her Majesty's Government will lend ready co-operation to the Government of the United States upon the basis of the concurrent resolution above quoted.

The United States has pleasure in laying this parliamentary resolution before the Congress and to express my sincere gratification that the sentiment of two great and kindred nations is thus authoritatively manifested in favor of the rational and peaceable settlement of international quarrels by honorable resort to arbitration.

The Consular Service.

During my former administration I took occasion to recommend a re-organization of the laws relating to the consular service, in order that it might become a more efficient agency in the promotion of the interests it was intended to subserve. The duties and powers of consuls have been expanded with the growing requirements of our foreign trade. Discharging important duties affecting our commerce and American citizens abroad, and in certain cases performing judicial functions, these officers should be of character, intelligence, and ability.

Upon proof that the legislation of Denmark secures copyright to American citizens on equal footing with its own, the privileges of our copyright laws have been extended by proclamation to subjects of that country.

The Treasury.

The Secretary of the Treasury reports that the receipts of the Government from all sources during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1893, amounted to \$461,716,561.94, and its expenditures to \$469,374,674.29. The deficit for the year was \$7,658,112.35. The receipts from customs \$238,355,016.78, and from internal revenue \$223,358,545.16. Our dutiable imports amounted to \$421,859,711, an increase of \$23,453,907 over the preceding year, and importations free of duty amounted to \$144,544,211, a decrease from the preceding year of \$13,455,447. Internal-revenue receipts exceeded those of the preceding year by \$7,147,445.32.

The total tax on distilled spirits was \$94,721,290.55, on manufactured tobacco, \$31,589,171.74, and on fermented liquors, \$23,848,983.07. We exported merchandise during the year amounting to \$847,695,194, a decrease of \$182,612,954 from the preceding year. The amount of gold in circulation was larger than any previous year in the history of the Government, amounting to \$108,090,844, and exceeding the amount exported during the preceding year by \$88,485,517.

The sum paid from the Treasury for sugar bounty was \$2,375,130.58, an increase over the preceding year of \$2,033,053.09. The amount of money of all kinds in circulation at the close of the year was \$29,859,718.54, an increase of \$2,033,053.09 over the amount at the close of the preceding year. The revenue laws that the Government has enacted during the year ending June 30, 1894, will be \$120,121,365.38 and its expenditures \$158,121,365.38, resulting in a deficiency of \$28,000,000.

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Silver Purchases.

The purchases of silver under the law of July 14, 1890, during the last fiscal year, aggregated \$4,008,162.59 fine ounces, which cost \$45,311,374.53. The total amount of silver purchased from the time that law became operative until the repeal of its purchase clause was \$29,859,718.54. On November 1, 1893, was 198,074,500.49 fine ounces, and cost \$155,930,940.84. On the 1st day of March, 1878, and the 1st day of November, 1893, the Government purchased, under all the laws that have been enacted, a total of \$216,544,882.09 of silver. On July 1, 1890, number 36,087,285. The seigniorage arising from such coinage was \$6,977,088.39, leaving on hand in the mints 140,690,739.50 fine ounces of silver, which cost \$126,708,218.

Our total coinage of all metals during the last fiscal year consisted of 97,280,575 pieces valued at \$32,085,178.80, of which there was \$20,038,140.92, \$33,743,715.71, and \$1,717,717.71 of subsidiary silver coin, and \$1,000,000 in gold coin.

During the calendar year 1892 the production of precious metals in the United States was estimated to be 1,506,375 fine ounces of gold of the commercial and coinage value of \$39,090,000, and 1,000,000 fine ounces of silver of the bullion or market value of \$50,700,000 and of the coinage value of \$71,080,000.

It is estimated that on the first day of July, 1893, the metallic stock of money in the United States, consisting of gold and silver bullion, amounted to \$1,213,550,109, of which \$507,697,685 was gold and \$705,852,424 was silver.

The hundred and nineteen national banks were organized during the year ending October 31, 1893, with a capital of \$1,230,000. Forty-six went into voluntary liquidation, one hundred and fifty-eight suspended. Sixty-five of the suspended banks were reorganized, and the remaining business and seven remain in the hands of the bank examiners, with prospects of speedy resumption. Of the new banks organized 44 were located in the Eastern States, 41 west of the Mississippi River, and 34 in the Central States. The total number of national banks in existence on the 31st day of October, 1893, was 3,797, having an aggregate capital of \$295,558,120. The net increase in the circulation of these banks during the year was \$29,859,718.54.

The Repeal of the Silver Repeal.

The recent repeal of the provision of

law requiring the purchase of silver bullion by the government as a feature of our monetary system, made an entire change in the complexion of our currency affairs. I do not doubt that the ultimate result of this action will be most salutary and far-reaching. In the nature of things, however, it is impossible to know at this time precisely what conditions will be brought about by the change, or what, if any, changes will be made in the future. The light of such conditions, appear to be essential or expedient. Of course, after the recent financial perturbation, time is necessary for the re-establishment of business confidence. When, however, through this restored confidence the money which has been frightened into hoarding places is returned to trade and enterprise, a survey of the situation will probably disclose a safe path leading to a permanently sound currency, abundantly sufficient to meet every requirement of our increasing population and business.

In the pursuit of this object we should resolutely turn the subject from alluring and temporary expedients, determined to be content with nothing less than a lasting and comprehensive financial plan. In these circumstances I am convinced that a reasonable delay in dealing with this subject, instead of being injurious, will increase the probability of wise action.

The Monetary Conference which assembled at Brussels upon our invitation was adjourned to the 30th day of November in the present year. The considerations just stated and the fact that a definite proposition from us seemed to be expected upon the reassembling of the conference, led me to express a wish that the meeting should still further postponed.

It seems to me that it would be wise to give general authority to the President to invite other nations to such a conference at any time when there should be a fair prospect of accomplishing an international agreement on the subject.

The Bond Question.

I desire also to earnestly suggest the wisdom of amending the existing statutes in regard to the issuance of government bonds. The authority now vested in the Secretary of the Treasury to issue bonds to express a wish that the meeting should still further postponed.

The government both as to the time of their maturity and rate of interest. The Superintendent of Immigration, through the Secretary of the Treasury, reports that during the last fiscal year there arrived at our ports 440,763 immigrants. The number of those who were returned to the countries from whence they came by reason of their having become public charges. The total arrivals were 141,034 less than for the previous year.

National Quarantine.

The Secretary in his report gives an account of the work done by the National Hospital Service and of the good work done under its supervision in preventing the entrance and spread of contagious diseases. The admissions of the last two years touching our public health and the demonstrated danger of the introduction of contagious diseases from foreign ports have invested the subject of national quarantine with increased interest. More general and harmonious system than now exists, acting promptly and directly everywhere, and constantly operating by preventive means to shield our country from the invasion of disease, and at the same time have regard to the rights and duties of local agencies, should be adopted, and greatly to the safety of our people.

The Army.

The Secretary of War reports that the strength of the Army on the 30th day of September last was 25,778 enlisted men and 2,144 officers.

Total expenditures of the Department for the year ending June 30, 1893, amounted to \$51,906,074.80. Of this sum, \$1,962,581.00 was for salaries and contingent expenses, \$23,377,828.35 for the support of the military establishment, and \$26,565,663.45 for miscellaneous objects, and \$20,518,311.41 for public works. This latter sum includes \$15,296,876.48 for river and harbor improvements and \$5,269,441.20 for fortifications and other works of defense.

The total enrollment of the militia of the several States was, on the 31st of October of the current year, 112,997 officers and enlisted men. The officers of the Army detailed for the inspection and instruction of this reserve of our military force report that increased interest and marked progress are apparent in the discipline and efficiency of the organization.

Neither Indian outbreaks nor domestic violence have called the Army into service during the year, and the only active military duty required of it has been in the Department of Texas, where violations of the treaty with the Indians, and the Mexicans were promptly and efficiently dealt with by the troops, eliciting the warm approval of the civil and military authorities of both countries.

The operation of wise laws and the influences of civilization constantly tending to relieve the country from the dangers of Indian hostilities, together with the increased ability of the States, through the efficiency of the National Guard organizations, to protect their citizens from domestic violence, lead to the suggestion that the time is fast approaching when there should be a reorganization of our Army on the lines of the present necessities of the country. This course contemplates neither increase in number nor added expense, but the reorganization of the force and an encouragement of measures tending to greater efficiency among the men and improvement of the service.

The adoption of battalion formations for infantry regiments, the strengthening of the cavalry force, the abandonment of smaller and unnecessary units, and the concentration of the troops at important and accessible stations, all promise to promote the usefulness of the Army. In the judgment of Army officers, with but few exceptions, the operation of the law forbidding the re-enlistment of men after ten years' service has not proved a wise policy, and while the argument that it is not to be repealed is not without merit, the experience of the country constrains me to join in the recommendation for its repeal.

Sea Coast Defenses.

It is gratifying to note that we have begun to attain completed results in the comprehensive scheme of seacoast defense and fortification, entered upon eight years ago. A large sum has been already expended, but as complete and efficient a system of construction and ordnance. At the end of the current calendar year the War Department will have nine 12-inch guns, twenty 10-inch, and thirty-four 8-inch guns, ready to be mounted on gun lifts and carriages, and seventy-five 12-inch mortars. In addition there will be a battery of 10-inch guns, now completed, and 100 8-inch guns, which have been contracted with private parties for the purchase of one hundred guns of these calibers, the first of which should be delivered to the Department for test before July 1, 1894.

The manufacture of heavy ordnance keeps pace with our needs, but to render these guns available for the equipments must be prepared for them. Progress has been made in this direction, and it is desirable that Congress by adequate appropriations should provide for the uninterrupted prosecution of this necessary work.

After much necessary work and a exhaustive examination in accordance with the requirements of the law, the board appointed to select a magazine rifle of modern type with which to replace the obsolete Springfield rifle of the infantry service, completed its labors during the last year, and progress at the Springfield Arsenal is now being made in the construction of a new rifle. It is confidently expected that at the end of the current year our infantry will be supplied with a weapon equal to that of the most progressive armies of the world.

The work on the projected Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park has been prosecuted with zeal and judgment, and its opening will be celebrated during the coming year. Over nine square

miles of the Chickamauga battle field have been acquired, twenty-five miles of roadway have been constructed and permanent tabling have been placed at many historical points, while the invitation to the States to mark the positions of their troops participating in the battle has been very generally accepted.

The work of locating and preserving the lines of battle at the Gettysburg battle field, and making satisfactory progress on the plans directed by the last Congress.

The reports of the Military Academy at West Point and the several schools for special instruction of officers, show marked advance in the education of the army and a commendable ambition among its officers to excel in the military profession and to fit themselves for the highest service to the country.

Under the supervision of Adj. Gen. Robert Williams, lately retired, the bureau of Military Information has become well established, and is performing a service that will put in possession of the government in time of war most valuable information, and to furnish to the military profession and to the public the highest service to the country.

The Department of Justice.

The report of the Attorney General contains the usual summary of the affairs and proceedings of the Department of Justice for the past year, together with certain recommendations. I cannot too heartily endorse the proposition that the fee system as applicable to the compensation of United States attorneys, marshals, clerks of federal courts and United States commissioners, should be abolished with as little delay as possible, and that the business of the community that the business of the courts, both civil and criminal, shall be as small and as inexpensively transacted as the ends of justice will allow.

The system is therefore thoroughly vicious which makes the compensation of such officers dependent upon the volume of such business, and thus creates a conflict between a proper execution of the law and private gain, which can not fail to be dangerous to the rights and freedom of the citizen and an irresistible temptation to the unjustifiable expenditure of public funds. If in addition to this reform another was suggested, which would give to United States commissioners their final disposition of petty offenses within the grade of misdemeanors, especially those coming under the internal revenue laws, a great advance would be made toward a more decent administration of the criminal law.

My first message to Congress, dated December 8, 1885, I strongly recommended these changes and referred somewhat at length to the evils of the present system. Since that time the criminal business of the Federal courts and the expense attending it have enormously increased. The number of criminal prosecutions pending in the circuit and district courts of the United States, at the close of the year 1885, was three thousand eight hundred and eight, of which one thousand eight hundred and eighty-four were for violations of the internal-revenue laws, while the number of such prosecutions pending on the first day of July, 1893, was nine thousand five hundred, of which four thousand two hundred and twenty were for violations of the internal-revenue laws. The expense of the United States courts, exclusive of judges' salaries, for the year ending July 1, 1885, was \$2,874,733.11, and for the year ending July 1, 1893, \$4,628,616.87.

It is therefore apparent that the reasons given in 1885 for a change in the manner of conducting this Federal criminal law, have gained cogency and strength by lapse of time.

I also heartily join the Attorney-General in recommending legislation fixing degrees of the crime of murder within Federal jurisdiction, as has been done in many of the States; authorizing writs of error on behalf of the Government in cases where final judgment has been rendered against the Government; and an indictment or against the Government upon any other question arising before actual trial; limiting the right of review in cases of felony punishable only by fine and imprisonment to the circuit court of appeals, and making speedy provision for the construction of such prisons and reformatories, and the removal of the confinement of the United States convicts.

The Postal Service.

The report of the Postmaster-General contains a detailed statement of the operations of the Post-Office Department during the last fiscal year and much interesting information touching this important branch of the public service.

The business of the mails indicates with absolute certainty the condition of the business of the country. The volume of the postal affairs inevitably and quickly reduces the postal revenues. Therefore a larger discrepancy than usual between the post office receipts and expenditures is the expected and unavoidable result of the distressing stringency which has prevailed during the last year. The number of the times covered by the Postmaster-General's report. At a date when better times were anticipated it was estimated by his predecessor that the deficiency on the 30th day of June, 1893, would be but a little over a million and a half dollars. It amounted, however, to more than five millions. At the close of the year ending June 30, 1894, the deficiency was \$5,245,718.11, an increase of \$3,768,118.11 over the deficiency of the preceding year.

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From the foregoing statements it appears that the total issue of money orders and postal notes for the year amounted to \$150,000,000.

The number of letters and packages mailed during the year for special delivery was 8,375,933, an increase over the preceding year of nearly 22 per cent. The special-delivery stamps used upon these letters and packages amounted to \$37,500.30, and the messengers' fees paid for their delivery amounted to \$55,552.71, leaving a profit to the Government of \$59,976.59.

The Railway Mail Service not only adds to the promptness of mail delivery at all offices, but it is the especial instrumental which puts the smaller and way places in the service on an equality in that regard with the larger and terminal offices. This branch of the postal service has therefore received most careful attention from the Postmaster-General, and though it is gratifying to know that it is in a condition of high efficiency and great usefulness, I am led to agree with the Postmaster-General that there is room for its further improvement.

There are now connected to the Post-Office establishment 100,000 employees who are in the classified service. The head of this great Department gives conclusive evidence of the value of civil service reform when, after an experience that renders his judgment on the subject absolutely reliable, he expresses the opinion that without the benefit of this system it would be impossible to conduct the vast business entrusted to him.

I desire to commend as especially worthy of prompt attention the suggestions of the Postmaster-General relating to a more sensible and